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# J-ey market



***Guidelines for vehicles not in  
compliance with federal  
emissions and safety standards***

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**Jesse White**  
Secretary of State



This brochure explains the requirements for obtaining titles and registrations for "grey market" vehicles — vehicles not originally manufactured in compliance with U.S. emissions and safety standards. These vehicles must be modified to meet those standards, and additional documentation from the federal government may be required.

If after reviewing the requirements for grey market vehicles you have further questions, please contact the appropriate phone number listed in this brochure. For title and registration information, please contact the Vehicle Services Department at 217-557-0717.

*Jesse White*

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Secretary of State

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# Grey Market Vehicles

Grey market vehicles are those vehicles not originally manufactured in compliance with U.S. emissions and safety standards. Federal law prohibits a grey market vehicle from being operated on public highways or sold until the vehicle is in compliance with federal regulations. Once in compliance, the vehicle is no longer considered a grey market vehicle.

## Obtaining a Title

An Illinois resident who is the **initial buyer** of a grey market vehicle must provide the required federal documents before obtaining an Illinois Certificate of Title. This requirement applies to licensed vehicle dealers as well as individual buyers. **Subsequent buyers** are not required to provide the same federal documents. The assigned Certificate of Title is acceptable without further proof of compliance.

## Required Forms

The following must be submitted to the Secretary of State to obtain a title for a grey market vehicle:

1. **Application for Vehicle Transaction(s) (VSD-190)** if the vehicle will not be operated, and the required title/registration fees.
2. **Motor Vehicle Tax Forms (RUT-25 or RUT-50)** and required fees.
3. **Ownership Documents** — Foreign documents of ownership must be the originals, not copies, and must be in English or accompanied by an English translation.

A **bill of sale** is required if the seller is not a U.S. citizen and the sale occurred in a foreign country. The bill of sale should indicate the year, model, make, vehicle identification number and purchase price. It must be in English or accompanied by an English translation.

If the ownership documents indicate a specific model year for the grey market vehicle, that year will be used on the title. Otherwise, the model year used on the title for any grey



market vehicle manufactured between September 1 and December 31 will be based on the following year.

#### **4. Federal Documents**

##### **U.S. Customs Form 7501-"Entry Summary" —**

Provided to the importer at the port of entry when the vehicle is brought into the U.S. The form must be signed by the importer and provided to the applicant. For import information, contact: U.S. Customs, P.O. Box 7407, Washington, D.C., 20044, 202-354-1000.

##### **U.S. Department of Transportation Form HS-7-"Importation of Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Safety Standards" —**

Required for vehicles not originally manufactured in compliance with federal emissions and safety standards, and acknowledged by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that the vehicle now conforms to safety standards. For more information, contact: U.S. DOT, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh St. S.W., Washington, D.C., 20590, 888-327-4236, [www.nhtsa.gov/cars/rules/impact](http://www.nhtsa.gov/cars/rules/impact).

##### **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Form 3520-1-"Importation of Motor Vehicles and Motor Vehicle Engines Subject to Federal Air Pollution Control Regulations" —**

An acknowledgment from the EPA that the vehicle now conforms to emissions standards. For more information, contact: U.S. EPA, Manufacturers Operations Division, Investigation/Imports Section, 401 Main St. S.W., Washington, D.C., 20460, 734-214-4100.

##### **U.S. DOT and EPA forms are not required if:**

- The importer or importer's agent submits documentation from these agencies that the vehicle is in compliance with or exempt from U.S. emissions and safety standards (both documents must indicate compliance or exemption to receive a title), or
- A manufacturer's Certificate of Origin has been issued showing the vehicle is in compliance with U.S. EPA and DOT standards, or
- The vehicle is 25 years old or older.

## ***Motor Vehicle Tax***

Any motor vehicle sales tax due must be submitted with the proper tax form. **Form RUT-25** is required if the vehicle is purchased from a foreign dealer. **Form RUT-50** is required if purchased from an individual. Taxes must be made payable to Illinois Department of Revenue, but submitted along with all other documents and fees to the Secretary of State.

For motor vehicle tax questions, please contact: Illinois Department of Revenue, 800-732-8866 (toll free in Illinois), 217-782-3336 or 312-814-3239.

## ***Insurance Claims***

If a vehicle is destroyed or stolen before it complies with U.S. DOT and EPA emissions and safety standards, the Secretary of State's office may consider issuing a Certificate of Title, Salvage Certificate or Junking Certificate **in the name of the insurance company** that paid the total loss claim due to theft or destruction.

An affidavit verifying that a total loss insurance claim has been filed against the insurance company must be submitted by the owner. The affidavit must identify the year, model, make and vehicle identification number as well as the name and address of the insurance company. The ownership documents and bill of sale, if applicable, also must be submitted.

## ***Mandatory Insurance***

All motor vehicles registered and operated in the state of Illinois must have liability insurance — insurance that covers property damage and/or injuries you may cause others in an accident.

## Title and Registration Fees

Illinois Certificate of Title .....\$65  
Standard Passenger Vehicle Registration .....\$79

Other registration fees vary according to gross weight, special use of vehicle, design of vehicle, business concern, etc.

Make fees payable to Secretary of State.

**DO NOT SEND CASH.**


## Where To Apply

**In person:** Secretary of State  
Customer Service Center  
Howlett Building, 1st Floor  
501 S. Second St.  
Springfield, IL 62756

**By mail:** Secretary of State  
Vehicle Records Processing Division  
424 Howlett Building  
501 S. Second St.  
Springfield, IL 62756

For more information about grey market vehicles, please call 217-782-6306.



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